REMARKS

By this preliminary amendment, original claims 1-10 have been amended and new claims 11-20 have been added to place the application in better condition for examination and allowance. Entry of this preliminary amendment and issuance of a first action on the merits are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RATNER & PRESTIA

Kevin R. Casey, Reg. No/32,117

Attorney for Applicants

KRC/kak

Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Dated: February 8, 2002

Suite 301 One Westlakes, Berwyn P.O. Box 980 Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980 (610) 407-0700

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

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Kathleen C. Woby